

Honey

Production

Virginia had 8,000 producing colonies in 2006, the same as 2005. Honey price decreased from \$2.22 per pound in 2005 to \$2.19 per pound in 2006. Honey production (from producers with at least 5 colonies) totaled 336,000 pounds in 2006, up 40,000 pounds from the previous year. Yield per colony was 42 pounds in 2006, up from 37 pounds per colony in 2005. Stocks in 2006 equaled about 34 percent of production, up from 20 percent last year.

U.S.

U.S. honey prices increased during 2006 to \$1.04 per pound, up 14 percent from 2005. Production in 2006 (from producers with at least 5 colonies) totaled 155 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005. There were 2.39 million colonies producing honey in 2006, down 1 percent from 2005. Yield per colony averaged 64.7 pounds, down 11 percent from 72.4 pounds in 2005. Colonies that produced honey in more than one state were counted in the state in which the honey was produced; therefore, yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 60.5 million pounds on December 15, 2006, down 3 percent from the previous year.

HONEY , PRODUCTION, STOCKS AND VALUE ^{1/}, 2005 ^{2/} – 2006

State	Honey Producing Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Stocks Dec. 15 ^{3/}		Average Price Per Pound ^{4/}		Value of Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	-1,000-		-lbs.-		-1,000 lbs.-		-1,000 lbs.-		-cents-		-1,000 dollars-	
Maryland	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
North Carolina	10	10	54	50	540	500	146	215	188	156	1,015	780
Virginia	8	8	37	42	296	336	59	114	222	219	657	736
West Virginia	8	5	51	42	408	210	102	57	130	195	530	410
U.S. ^{6/}	2,413	2,392	72.4	64.7	174,818	154,846	62,478	60,528	91.8	104.2	160,428	161,314

1/ For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State. 2/ Revised. 3/ Stocks held by producers. 4/ Prices weighted by sales. 5/ CT, DE, MD, MA, NH, OK, RI, AND SC not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. 6/ Total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.